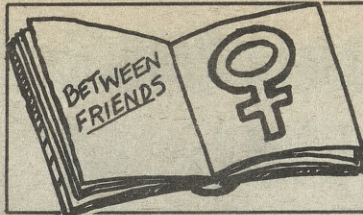


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The  
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Volume 1, Number 24

Published Alternate Wednesdays for the Women and Men of the Gay and Lesbian Community

April 20, 1983

## Local Man Sues To Get Spouse Benefits

Allen Chamberlin of Sacramento, a flight attendant with Frontier Airlines, filed a lawsuit against the airline April 19 in Sacramento Superior Court, seeking reduced-cost air travel benefits for his life partner of nine years, Joe Shields.

Chamberlin's lawsuit alleges that Frontier Airlines has refused to provide him with the same employment benefits it provides to its heterosexual employees. The reduced-cost air travel benefits are an integral part of airline employees' compensation package, along with wages, health benefits, and pension benefits.

Currently, Frontier Airlines allows its heterosexual employees' spouses to fly free or at greatly reduced rates. It also provides reduced rate air travel to household dependents of its employees. But Frontier Airlines refuses to provide these same benefits to employees in relationships with members of the same sex.

The Sacramento law firm of Metrailler, Langenkamp & Buscho represents Chamberlin in the suit. Attorney Carolyn Langenkamp explained, "In his lawsuit, Mr. Chamberlin alleges that Frontier Airlines discriminates against its gay employees because it conditions reduced air travel benefits on a status (marriage) which they are unable to attain."

She continued, "The lawsuit also charges Frontier Airlines with violating the California Constitutionally protected right of privacy. Frontier Airlines conditions the right to reduced air travel benefits on how an individual makes private decisions about living arrangements, sexuality, and personal commitments.

"Other airlines provide similar benefits in more equitable manner. Some airlines allow each employee to list one person who receives a 'companion pass,' thus giving each employee an opportunity to use the benefits without having to reveal the nature of the relationship involved."

Chamberlin made the following statement about the lawsuit: "I am in a stable committed relationship of nine years duration. I have been trying for four years to get my partner the same benefits heterosexual airline employees enjoy. We've tried every possible avenue to find a mature compromise with the airline. But they've forced us to give up our remaining privacy by going to court.

"This isn't a game we're playing," he said. "Frontier has determined only to hand out the goodies to the people it likes. That's clearly unfair and a threat to all minorities if this stands."\*



Star Photo by Tim Warford

Frontier Airlines flight attendant Allen Chamberlin and his attorney Carolyn Langenkamp discuss his lawsuit against Frontier. Chamberlin is seeking to force the airline to modify its policy so that his life partner, Joe Shields, will receive the reduced-cost air travel benefits given to the spouses of heterosexually-married employees.

## Blood Bank Rep Fails To Satisfy RCBA Questioners

By JAMES K. GRAHAM

Rose Lester, public relations officer for the Sacramento Blood Bank, dealt with the prickly issue of the blood bank's ban on gay male donors at the general membership meeting of the River City Business Association April 11.

Saying that she wished to open lines of communication between the gay community and the blood bank, Lester said that she would take back to the officials of the blood bank the questions, comments, and concerns voiced at the meeting. Several people present, however, felt that she concentrated more on defending the blood bank's policies and refuting questions and comments than she did on listening.

Lester first passed out copies of the blood bank's revised policy regarding donors felt to be at risk because of AIDS. The revision, dated March 16, replaces the original policy reported on in the Feb. 23 issue of The Star. No notice of the revision was given to the press at the time it became effective.

The revised policy states that persons to whom any of the following conditions apply will be indefinitely deferred from donating blood:

- Homosexual or bisexual men
- Those with AIDS symptoms (which include unexplained fever, heavy night-sweats, unexpected weight loss of 10 pounds or more in a short time, lymph node enlargement)

- Current or past users of intravenous drugs
- Hemophilia sufferers
- Intimate contact with or sexual partners of AIDS patients
- Haitian immigrants
- Sexual partners of high risk people.

Lester asserted that the policy had been set by the blood bank's Scientific Advisory Committee strictly on medical grounds, without any thought of politics or public relations. She discounted the suggestion that the doctors on the Scientific Advisory Committee could perhaps not distance themselves from the homophobic attitudes prevalent in society.

Repeatedly she stated that the Sacramento Blood Bank has more stringent standards in many areas than do other blood banks. "We are a conservative blood bank. We always have been, and we always will be," she said.

Several persons questioned the local blood bank's policy of screening donors rather than blood. Lester again and again stated that there is no blood test that can detect AIDS. Dr. Sandy Pomerantz, Medical Director of the Sacramento AIDS/KS Foundation, disputed her assertion.

In response to a question, Lester admitted the apparent contradiction that the local blood bank will accept blood from blood banks in other cities, such as San Francisco and Los Angeles, where the incidence of AIDS is much higher and

screening policies are less stringent, even though it will not accept blood here from people who could be donors there.

She also admitted that the Medical Director of the blood bank here will review individual cases on request and waive the policy if he feels that the donor's medical history warrants such action.

Lester replied to a questioner that she didn't know if the Sacramento Blood Bank had written to U.S. authorities asking for more funding for AIDS research.

She pledged, however, that she would insure such support from the blood bank.

She also told the group that she would work to set up a meeting between blood bank officials and concerned members of the gay community.

RCBA officers expressed regret that only 15 persons showed up to hear Lester's important presentation. They attributed the poor attendance to the conflict of the meeting with the Academy Awards show on television.\*

## Star Sets Staff Meeting April 24, New Volunteers Are Invited To Attend

A meeting for staff members and people interested in working on The Sacramento Star will be held Sunday, April 24, at 8 p.m. in the Oak Room on the third floor of the University Union, California State University, Sacramento.

The Star is looking for men and women from all segments of the community to work on reporting, ad sales, photography, graphics and layout, accounting and bookkeeping, and other aspects of this community newspaper.

According to editor James Graham, "We invite all interested people to join us at this meeting and find out what The Star has to offer them and what they have to offer the community through The Star."

He continued, "Our experienced writers and staff members will be on hand to meet and talk with newcomers. The sharing of experience, ideas, and information is one of the most rewarding aspects of working on a community newspaper like The Star."\*



## Official Says Gay Softball Is Taking Off All Around The Country

By TOM VINDEED  
NAGAA Publicity Director

Member cities within the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) are preparing for the upcoming season by trying to get in shape. They have their sights set on Chicago, which will host the seventh annual gay softball world championship Labor Day weekend.

Upwards of eighteen cities will try to wrest the championship from San Francisco's Pendulum Pirates of the Gay Softball League. Manager Art Jackson of the Pirates has every intention of keeping the title in San Francisco, provided his team wins the G.S.L. championship.

Cities vying for this year's title will be runner-up Milwaukee and four-time champion Los Angeles, along with Atlanta, Birmingham, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Houston, Kansas City, Long Beach, Minneapolis/St. Paul, New York, Pittsburgh, Portland, Seattle, So. New

England (New Haven), Toronto, and Tulsa.

This is a formidable group for the Pendulum to overcome, and a championship series that is sure to be the finest yet in the five-year history of NAGAAA.

NAGAAA commissioner Bill Muldoon said recently, "We sense that we are on the verge of a tremendous expansion period. We have laid a careful groundwork. The influence gay softball has had on its members has been salutary. The positive role modeling provided to the community helps with the transition to an open status for all gays. Gay sports will take its rightful place with other gay organizations in acting as positive leaders for the gay community."

For any assistance and/or information regarding gay softball, the gay world series, or NAGAAA, write or send requests for information to: Commissioner, NAGAAA, c/o TCGSL, P.O. Box 13157, Dinkytown Stations, Minneapolis, MN. 55414. \*

## Americans Prefer Dramatic Medical Feats To Everyday Good Health Care

Not enough money is spent telling Americans they are killing themselves by overeating and smoking too much, and people "just don't want to listen," Dr. Marshall Kreuter of the Center for Health Promotion and Education at the Atlanta-based Center for Disease Control said recently, according to The Associated Press.

He also said too much attention is paid to "spectacular" health breakthroughs like Barney Clark's artificial heart and not enough to educating people about their excessive lifestyles, which he called "our biggest killer."

Public health education is "Very slow. The impact it makes over a long period of time is incredible, but it's unspectacular," he said.

Kreuter compared the artificial heart case with the lesser attention given the CDC's Dr. William Foege and others who helped eradicate smallpox.

"When was the last time a public health official heard a 'thank you'?" he asked. "People are interested in spectacular surgery. We have the same problem with health education in the schools."

Educating the public about good health is a problem because of habits, he said, noting that only 12 to 15 percent of the people who drive automobiles use seat belts.

"It makes no sense, but the reason is habit," he said. "It's the same with health prevention. People have habits that are not easy to change," such as smoking, drinking and overeating, he said.

"A lot of people just don't want to listen, although it's getting better," Kreuter said. "That's the toughest job we face. It's boring. It's no Barney Clark. But we just have to roll up our sleeves and go to work." \*

## Health Panel Passes AIDS Bill, Roberti To Add Funding

The State Senate Health and Welfare Committee April 13 approved on a 5-0 vote SB-910, Senator David Roberti's AIDS research and education bill.

The measure now goes to the Senate Finance Committee. If passed, it will establish a seven-member Scientific Review Committee to provide advice to the Department of Health Services on the distribution of state grants for workshops and research on AIDS and other health-related problems.

The Scientific Review Committee will comprise two members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, three appointed by the Governor, and two appointed by the Senate Rules Committee.

"AIDS is a national emergency," Roberti (D-Hollywood) said. "Epidemiologists predict that the number of people affected by AIDS will double by the end of 1983."

Roberti, President Pro Tempore of the State Senate, announced that he will now amend his bill to add a \$200,000 appropriation to "get the advisory committee going."

He added that "\$200,000 is not a great deal of money and the AIDS problem requires greater funding."

"The first task for the Scientific Review Committee could be primarily one of funding local educational and preventive efforts which would return a great deal of community benefits without large expenditures of state funds," Roberti explained.

"I am pleased that my colleagues in the Senate Health and Welfare Committee have approved this legislation, because it means we are one step closer to prevention of AIDS through public education regarding risk reduction." \*

## LETTERS

### Likes Our AIDS Coverage

Editor:

Your paper is of exceptional quality and has an interesting dialog about AIDS. We congratulate you on your policy to not focus in on the tragedy of AIDS as many other gay papers have done, or to concentrate on medical/scientific research glimmers or breakthroughs that don't pan out to be anything.

May I call your attention to the 5th National Lesbian/Gay Health Conference scheduled for June, in Denver. It will be a very productive Conference, with many

gay/lesbian health issues being explored—especially AIDS, with the Second National AIDS Forum being held, which among other things, will help formulate a "national gay policy" on dealing with the AIDS crisis. The nation's great gay medical minds (and bodies too, I hope) will be in attendance—a truly exciting experience.

MARK BEHAR  
Chairperson

National Coalition of Gay Sexually  
Transmitted Disease Services

### Invitation To Gay Winter Games

Editor:

Our entire staff looks forward to reading each Star when it arrives. It is always exciting to find out what is happening in our community around the world.

We met some of the members of the team representing Sacramento during the 1982 Summer Gay Games and greatly hope that Sacramento will also be repre-

sented at the first Lesbian/Gay Winter Games here in 1986. We will be more than happy to supply you with any additional information you may need.

ROBIN KARAS  
JEAN-NICKOLAS TRETTET

Co-Chairs  
Minnesota Lesbian/Gay Committee  
International Gay Olympic Association

## AIDS: IMPLICATIONS FOR LIFESTYLES

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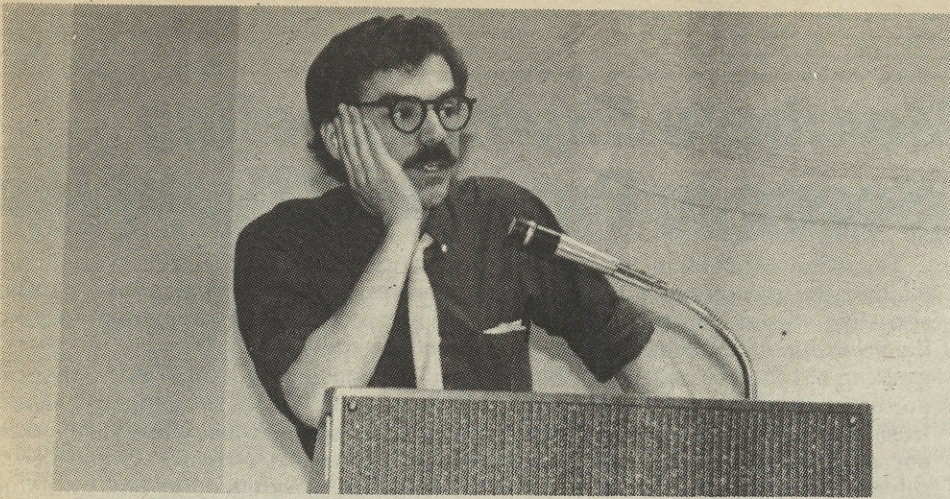
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Star Photo by Tim Warford

Gay historian Allan Berube talks about the experiences of lesbians and gay men in World War II during his presentation, "Marching to a Different Drummer" at CSUS April 14. His talk was sponsored by The Star, LGPU, and Lambda Media Association.

## AIDS/KS Office Is Now Open, Public Forum II Set For May 7

The Sacramento AIDS/KS Foundation has announced the opening of their office at 2115 J St., Suite 3. The office will be open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The telephone number is 448-AIDS. The Foundation has also announced a second public forum on AIDS, co-sponsored by the American Cancer Society. The forum, to which the public is invited free of charge, will run from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 7, in room 4203 of the State Capitol. A representative of Senator David Roberti will report on SB-910, the AIDS research and education bill sponsored by Roberti.

The Sacramento AIDS/KS Foundation is providing a number of other services and activities.

The foundation's office has a medical referral list for anyone with AIDS concerns. Also available are referrals to psychotherapists to work with individuals about their AIDS concerns.

A supportive therapy group for persons with AIDS is now running at American River Hospital. A similar group will be forming this summer for people with intermediate syndromes, such as chronic lymphadenopathy, and another group for

the "worried well."

The foundation has established a liaison with the UC Davis Medical Center and is in the process of establishing an AIDS Clinic there. It will be held twice a month in the evening for people who lack health insurance.

Volunteers are also providing transportation for any AIDS patients to medical appointments, hospital visits, rehabilitation therapy, psychotherapy, and so on.

According to Dr. Sandy Pomerantz, the foundation's Medical Director, "We are providing educational material to all members of the Sacramento community, sponsoring forums for any persons in high risk groups, with guidelines specifically for risk reduction. We are providing education for AIDS patients on healthful sexual activity, hygiene, and general health maintenance.

"We are also providing educational materials and forums to most, if not all, segments of the Sacramento medical community. In addition, we are rewriting an all-encompassing brochure, to be distributed to the public at large, concerning AIDS and all its manifestations and any intermediate syndromes."

The Board of the Foundation is monitoring AIDS and health-related legislation locally, statewide, and nationally, and is working with Senator Roberti on his AIDS research and education bill.

Since all of the AIDS/KS Foundation's services are provided at no charge to clients, it is in need of financial assistance from the community at large. The Board is coordinating fund-raising efforts. All contributions are tax-deductible, and can be mailed to P.O. Box 162266, Sacramento 95816, or to the office. ★

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# Slides Show Roots Of Modern Gay Life

By RICK RUMAN

Allan Berube, of the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay History Project, presented his slide show "Marching to a Different Drummer: Lesbian and Gay Americans During World War II" to a small but appreciative and enthusiastic audience at CSUS April 14.

The History Project, with which Berube has been involved for the past four years, sponsors a variety of lectures and slide shows.

"Marching to a Different Drummer" focuses on gay men and their experiences during World War II, but about a third of the material deals with lesbians and their experiences during the war.

Berube says he first became interested in World War II when doing oral history interviews with men in their 50s and 60s. They told him that they considered it one of the most important times of their lives.

Then, coincidentally, a neighbor told Berube of some letters that an acquaintance of hers had found abandoned in the basement of a house when the owner died. The letters turned out to be what Berube called "a gay historian's dream": several hundred letters that had been written and exchanged between seven gay draftees 20 to 21 years old near the end of the war.

"Those letters took over my life," says Berube. As he put the letters into chronological order, "a whole world began unfolding for me."

The material is the letters prompted Berube to pursue other sources. He wrote

## GNIE Crowns Emperor X Ken, Empress X Loretta In Gala

By GERRY WORTMAN

Ken Peacock and Loretta were crowned Emperor and Empress X of the Great Northwest Imperial Empire (GNIE) in a cavalcade of stars at the Turn Verein Hall April 16. Over 500 people were on hand, including courts from as far away as Vancouver and Boise.

Ken is originally from San Francisco, and served as King Father IX of All California. Loretta, his better half, was one of the founders of the Valley Knights Motorcycle Club Christmas show.

Modesto's Silver Sapphire Court took the award for best in-theme entrance with a Hollywood production. Alameda County's Emperor Frumpy was the best male—as Toto in "The Wiz"—and Sacramento's La Kish was named best female in a display of taste. Skip Vicknair was created Imperial Count, and named a member of GNIE's board.

The evening was a benefit for AIDS, with a dollar off the top of each ticket for

to Washington to obtain government documents under the Freedom of Information Act.

Out of this research came the slide show and an article in the February/March issue of Mother Jones magazine, "Gays At War: The Roots of Liberation." The 90-minute slide show currently includes some 400 slides, including snapshots lent him by interviewees and drawings and sketches by lesbians and gays in the service during World War II.

Since publication of the article in Mother Jones, Berube has received letters from people across the country offering to discuss their experiences during the war.

Berube and the project are still actively soliciting interviewees. "Any degree of anonymity is respected," he says. "I even have people whose names I don't know. One woman called me, came by my house, and talked to me. She still calls me about once a month. I still don't know her name or where she lives."

Only last year, following a fund-raising campaign, was Berube able to give up his part-time work as a typist to concentrate all of his energies on his work for the history project.

Currently, he has a backlog of about 70 interviews and hopes soon to negotiate a book advance that will enable him to hire some assistants.

Berube may be contacted through, and donations may be sent to the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay History Project, P.O. Box 42332, San Francisco, CA 94101. ★

the Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation. The Court was honoring outgoing Emperor IX Doug and Empress I and IX Billy for a year of solid successes.

The Coronation was set in a weekend of activities. Friday night the friends of Doug and Billy dug up the dirt in the Imperial Roast at the Parking Lot. Saturday afternoon the celebrants gathered at the Mansion Inn's hospitality suite to watch Modesto's Amazon try to walk through a plate glass window, and to speculate about the marks on the neck of Titania of Portland. The Coronation itself took place Saturday night, and Sunday saw an overflow crowd at the Forum for the Victory Brunch.

GNIE's Emperor and Empress are elected by the community at large. Last year they raised \$11,000 for groups like Metropolitan Community Church, the KS Foundation, and Our Community United through shows, bingo, and auctions. The Court is also building a first class sound system for the use of the community. ★

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# BOOKS

## 'Coming To Power'—SAMOIS Members Explore Feeling And Meaning Of Lesbian S&M Scene In Prose And Graphics

"Coming to Power: Writings and Graphics on Lesbian S/M," edited by members of SAMOIS. Alyson Publications, P.O. Box 2783, Dept. B-28, Boston, MA 02208. \$8.50 postpaid.

Reviewed by JOYCE BRIGHT

*Coming to Power* is a collection of fictional short stories, poetry, political essays, philosophical explanations, and graphics—all designed to raise the consciousness of those people for whom the spectrum of lesbian sadomasochism connotes a perverse and perverted sub-culture of the gay/lesbian community.

As so often happens when an oppressed sub-culture gains a modicum of acceptance, splinter groups within the sub-culture are suddenly open to persecution. Homosexuals have made giant strides in the world of social acceptance. The heterosexual media, looking for a new scapegoat to use as moral injunction, turns then to the persecution of sadomasochists.

The lesbian/gay press and feminists

collude in S/M suppression. Feminists, for example, who not so long ago argued that every woman has a right to define her own body and pursue her own goals, suddenly see female sadomasochism as an extension of patriarchal violence. Several articles in *Coming to Power* deal specifically with the origins and continuing nature of this persecution.

To go a step further, several articles deal with the philosophical aspect of lesbian S/M. As Kitt writes in one essay: "Many members of the women's community, as outsiders, see only the hurting in the S/M experience, never the touching of the fine line between pleasure and pain to heighten pleasure. They see the acting out of power, never the demonstration of consensuality. They see the pain or humiliation, never the sharing, concern, love."

Susan Farr in "The Art of Discipline" points out that "our society tolerates and advocates both indiscriminate and systematic violence when consent is absent." Wars are a perfect example.

Moreover, psychological S/M is a daily occurrence.

Yet when consenting adults want to explore the complexities of power and sexuality within controlled situations, then stringent taboos arise. "The working out of play and power between our bodies has served to keep clean and fresh and comprehensible the working out of play and power between ourselves," Farr writes.

The stories and fictions illustrate explicitly the actual mechanics and emotional catharsis implied in the articles. They are interesting.

There are several articles on "handkerchief codes," an article on safety precautions, several "coming-out" stories. These articles demonstrate that sadomasochists are consenting, responsible human beings, both thinking and articulate. Our prejudices against these people, like most prejudices, arise from our own dark fears and not necessarily from any corresponding reality.

In a humorous article entitled "Dear Aunt Sadie," the riddle is asked: "How many anti-S/M feminists does it take to screw in a light bulb?" Answer: "At least four. One to handle the bulb, one to

critique the word 'screw' one to lend professional credentials to the operation, and one to find common ground with the utility company."

This joke points up, finally, that politics is perhaps not the proper vehicle for sexual examination. Sexuality, except for the most doctrinaire, is not dictated by political intellection but by natural inclinations and diversity. To the extent that we limit the sexual exploration of a group of consenting adults, to that extent we limit our own choices. To the extent that we denigrate the sexual activity of one group, we pass judgement on ourselves. Finally, to the degree that we actively join in the wholesale condemnation of a sexual sub-culture, blindly and without information, we perpetrate ignorance in the world.

*Coming to Power* is an intelligently put together collection of writings. The women of SAMOIS—the S/M community that put this book together—bravely seek to shed light on a very taboo subject. In so doing they reclaim their own power. As a feminist I cannot but applaud their effort. \*

## Fascinating Letters Between Friends Tell Of Four Women Discovering, Developing Their Feminism

"Between Friends" by Gillian E. Hanscombe. Alyson Publications. Paperbound, \$5.95.

Reviewed by Sharon McDonell

*Between Friends* by Gillian E. Hanscombe is one of the best novels I've read in years. It isn't often that a book comes out that allows you to identify with it in so many different ways—as an individual, a lesbian, a feminist (whether you are just learning about feminism or have had it incorporated into your life for years), and as a friend.

The book centers around four women whose lives are portrayed through their letters to each other. Each woman deals with feminism in her own way, while going through the "coming out" process of becoming a feminist. Like those of us who

have "come out" as gay or lesbian, a feminist will usually deny some of her (or his) feelings of being oppressed, then become angry at society. Some women and men will live a feminist lifestyle fully, while others will only be out as feminists when they are with others who feel the same—like those people who are openly gay or lesbian only when they're in a gay bar.

The four women in the novel have become feminists or considered feminism for different reasons. Through their letters you can see their "coming out" processes and what does or doesn't work for them. One woman becomes aware of feminism as both political and personal, one as a lesbian separatist, one as a feminist woman in a heterosexual marriage. The fourth woman has negative feelings toward feminism that must either challenge her friendships or threaten her marriage.

The book is excellent for those men (gay or non-gay) who really want to learn about lesbianism and the feminist conflicts that we all can experience. It can also teach them why some feminists (lesbian or non-lesbian) can be so serious and so hostile. *Between Friends* also shows the reader the kinds of men feminists like to know and the kinds they do "hate."

For those women who are just exploring feminism, this novel is not only exciting but also educational. For those who already consider themselves feminists, *Between Friends* helps you to remember and validate your past struggles and encourages you to re-examine your present beliefs.

Author Gillian Hanscombe makes her characters so real that you forget someone else has written the letters. Read *Between Friends* and share some intimate moments with a few new friends. \*

## NY Mayor Declares Aid For AIDS Week

New York City Mayor Edward Koch has declared April 24-30 "Aid to AIDS Week" in order to focus attention on the public health emergency brought on by Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

Underscoring the seriousness of the epidemic for New Yorkers in particular, the Mayor's proclamation notes that more than half of the nation's AIDS patients are in New York City.

Mel Rosen, Executive Director of Gay Men's Health Crisis, noted in receiving the proclamation from Mayor Koch that the Aid to AIDS Week "serves to remind us all of the strength of the community and city when we join together to combat this health emergency. It is also a tribute to the more than 600 volunteers who have created and daily contribute to GMHC."

The week will culminate in a GMHC fundraiser at a performance of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus at Madison Square Garden. That event is expected to raise more than \$250,000.

Gay Men's Health Crisis is an all-volunteer organization founded in January 1982 to educate the general and gay communities concerning AIDS and related health issues, to offer support services to AIDS patients, and to raise funds for medical research. \*

## Economic Status of Women Still Declining, US Commission Says

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights said April 11 that the rapid increase in the number of poor families headed by women is a "time bomb" in American society, The Associated Press reported.

In its report, "A Growing Crisis: Disadvantaged Women and their Children," the commission said it was "alarmed about the increasing income disparities for women, particularly minority women, heading households."

Commission vice chair Mary Louise Smith said, "The burden of poverty is going to fall upon those families where there are women heads of households."

The commission found that between 1960 and 1981, the number of persons in poor families headed by women rose 54 percent while the number in poor families headed by white men dropped by 50 percent. Some 27 percent of all black and Hispanic children were poor in 1981.

The commission also found that a family's economic status is likely to be worse if the family is non-white. The overall poverty rate for female-headed

households in 1981 was 34.6 percent. For white, female-headed families, the rate was 27.4 percent. But for black female-headed families, it was 52.9 percent and for Hispanic female-headed families it was 53.2 percent.

The commission report said American women, especially those who are not white, face an interrelated set of obstacles to financial stability: increases in the number of divorces, a growing number of out-of-wedlock births, employment discrimination, and socialization, which combine to funnel women into low-paying jobs and pay them less than men with comparable training.

"Sex-stereotyped education, biased vocational counseling, sex-segregated jobs and wage discrimination, although against the law, continue to influence the employment and earnings of women," the report said. "Because women are in the worst-paying jobs, those who work full time earn just 59 cents for every dollar a full-time male earns." \*

## Gay Fathers Group To Hold Convention No. 6 In Denver

The sixth annual Gay Fathers Coalition national conference will be held in Denver May 20-22. Jim Roberts, convention coordinator, said that gay fathers' place in society would be a good theme for the convention.

Leaders and workshop topics include Stu Gross, New York male sexuality group leader, "Gay Fathers, the Public and the Future of Gay Fathers in Western Society;" Michael Outwater, New Jersey, "Gay Marriage;" Barbara Salaman, Denver attorney, "Legal Rights and Responsibilities of Gay Fathers;" and gay health concerns.

A panel of wives and ex-wives of gay fathers will discuss children's needs, problems, development, and how children deal with their father's being gay and how fathers deal with their children.

Mark Stephens, chairman of the San Francisco chapter, will present a pot-pourri session for conferees to get to know one another.

Registration for the convention will begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 20, in the Summer House Party Room, 1313 Williams. A cash bar and hors d'oeuvres will be available prior to further socializing in Denver nightspots.

Saturday's events begin with registration from 8:30-9 a.m. at the Airport Ramada Inn, 6090 Smith Road. The workshops will be presented immediately following late registration.

Registration fees are \$15 prior to May 1 and \$20 after that date. Send fees to GFC, Box 18005, Denver CO 80218 or call (303) 288-4109.

Saturday evening, Gay Fathers will have a cocktail party at a local bar.

Sunday, the conference will conclude with a brunch sponsored by the Denver Chapter. Entertainment will be provided during Friday's registration and Sunday's brunch.

"Every opportunity is being considered to provide for participants to get to know each other, to discuss and share experiences and concerns of being a gay father," Roberts said. \*



# FEATURE

Celebrate With The Star

## May Day: Ancient Festival Of Fertility, Growth Still Lives

By Mother Krona

*Winter, Spring, Summer, Autumn—birth, growth, fading, death—the wheel turns, on and on. Ideas are born, projects are consummated, plans prove impractical and die. We fall in love, we suffer loss, we consummate relationships, we give birth, we grow old, we decay. The Sabbats are the eight points at which we connect the inner and the outer cycles: the interstices where the seasonal, the celestial, the communal, and the personal all meet. As we enact each drama in its time, we transform ourselves. We are renewed, we are reborn.*

Wiccan Sabbat Charge  
Appropriate for Beltane

\* \* \*

May Day, or Beltane, was revered by the Celts, Teutons, and people of Eastern Europe as a planting festival, a time to bless the seeds and soil, and a celebration of the return of the fertile summer season—in short, and in greatness, the Goddess.

In those agricultural cultures, the day began at sundown and ended at the next sundown. Thus, May Eve, the evening before May Day, was part of the celebration, called Roodmas in Britain and Walpurgis Nacht in Germany. Beltane is the Celtic name for the entire day.

In those ancient cultures, the Goddess of Birth, Sex, Death/Rebirth was seen as the Constant in the Universe. The God (male) was seen as the force that is borne forth by the Goddess/Great Mother. He plays out his destiny, dies, and is reborn, again and again.

The Maypole Dance, the traditional celebration of May Day, is symbolic of this great spiritual principle. Ribbons are

tied to the pole and held by the dancers, who weave them in and out. The colors of the ribbons include violet and purple to symbolize death and rebirth, yellow and orange and red to symbolize the sun, and blue and green and brown to symbolize the earth. Who the dancers are varies from culture to culture—sometimes children, sometimes young women, sometimes women of all ages.

The circle the dancers form represents the casting of the magic circle establishing a protected sacred space in which one can contact higher and other life forms. The maypole itself is a symbol of the masculine sexual force in nature. The ribbons and wreath denote the bounty and continuity of life.

The dance itself, entwining a lad to the pole, symbolizes magically "catching the spirit of male potency" for a good growing season. It is customary for all females wishing happy romances, children, or marriages to run up and kiss the bound lad.

The passing of the goblet of spring wine is a German custom to guarantee the enjoyment of good health and prosperity during the growing season, as well as fun, frivolity, and fascinating times. Nowadays we tend to pass apple juice or grape juice, in deference to our sisters and brothers who are struggling with alcoholism.

The celebration of May Day is the oldest and most sensual of the fertility rites and is still practiced worldwide by all ages and cultures.

\* \* \*

The Sacramento Star and Mother Krona invite you to a modern May Day

celebration and ritual to be held from 1 p.m. till dusk on Sunday, May 1, in McKinley Park, near H Street and Alhambra Blvd. in Sacramento. This is a festival of celebration for spring, growth, renewal, and health, for children and the children in men and women of all ages. It is also the celebration of the first anniversary of The Star.

Look for the maypole located between the rose garden and the duck pond. The dance will take place at approximately 3 p.m., "Pagan Time"; that is, "when it is the right time to happen then it is time to let it happen." In this modern-day celebration, everyone is invited to join in the dance.

Please bring musical instruments, poetry, and songs to share. Bright and striking dress is encouraged; wearing of flowers and greenery is in good taste. Bring food and drink to share in a potluck feast after the dance, and fruit, flowers, and bright ribbons to help adorn and create our magical space.

Face painting, fortune telling, massage, and gentle healing will be available for your pleasure and participation.

A Wiccan May Day ritual will be conducted after the public celebration at a private house nearby. If you are interested in attending and participating, contact Mother Krona at the public celebration.\*

## SF Coroner Rules AIDS Death Not Mercy Killing, Accused 'Counselor' Cleared

San Francisco Coroner Stephen Boyd ruled March 31 that Joseph DuBois, an AIDS patient, died from drugs administered by accident and was not the victim of a mercy killing or a crime, according to The Associated Press.

Boyd's decision ended an inquest into DuBois' death that was held because the coroner's office had received allegations that friends of DuBois, who was in great pain and had been given only two months to live, may have killed him out of mercy. DuBois was a San Francisco shop owner who died in the care of self-described death counselor Mario Uribe of Oakland.

Coroner Stephens said that evidence presented during the four-day inquest supported Uribe's claim that he had given DuBois a combination of morphine and sleeping pills in an attempt to ease his pain and help him sleep during his final days.

Uribe testified he used a syringe to squirt the solution into DuBois' mouth for four days before DuBois died on Nov. 25. Hours before he died, DuBois had complained that "He felt like his brains were in a frying pan," Uribe testified, and so he increased the morphine dosage.

Uribe declined to comment after Stephens' decision.\*

## Conference On Anthropology, Homosexuality May 6-7 At CSUS

The Anthropological Research Group on Homosexuality will sponsor a Conference on Homosexuality at California State University, Sacramento, Friday-Saturday, May 6-7. The Sacramento Anthropological Society will co-sponsor the conference.

The conference features five sessions during which papers will be presented

and discussed, and a Friday night wine and cheese reception. Registration for the two-day conference costs \$5, and is open to all interested individuals.

All sessions of the conference will take place in the Forest Suite and Miwok Room on the third floor of the University Union on the CSUS campus. Registration will be held Friday morning, May 6, from

10:30 to noon, followed by opening comments until 12:30.

The first session, "Them and Us: Social Interaction and Conflict," will run from 12:30 until 2 p.m. Participants will be Gregory Herek, UC Davis, "Individual Attitudes and Cultural Ideologies: Reaction to Lesbians and Gay Men in a California Community"; Kathleen Weston and Lisa Rofel, Stanford University, "Sexuality, Class, and Conflict in a Lesbian Workplace"; and Clark Taylor, Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, "The Mass Processing of Sexual Deviance in Nazi Germany."

After a half-hour coffee break, the second session, a roundtable discussion of gay politics in the social sciences, will run from 2:30 till 4:30.

A wine and cheese reception is scheduled for 6 to 8 Friday evening.

The third session, "His and Hers: Aspects of Gay American Lifestyles," is set for 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 7. Presentations will be given by Judith Saunders and Pamela Brink, Southern California Women for Understanding, "One Thousand Lesbians Speak"; Sheryl Goldberg, San Francisco State University, "Nation-Wide Survey of Lesbians Over 65: Preliminary Findings"; and Mark Small, "Gay Male Bath Houses and Their Ritual Practices."

Lunch, scheduled for 11:30 to 1, will be followed by the fourth session, "The Construction of Sexuality." This session will feature Peter Fry, Universidade Estadual de Campinas, "From Hierarchy to Equality: The Historical Construction of Homosexuality in Brazil"; Evelyn Blackwood, San Francisco State, "An Analysis of Sex and Gender Based on Native American *Berdache*"; and Joe Carrier, "The Bisexual Mexican Male." This session will run from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

The final session, a discussion of homosexuality in classroom media, will run from 3 to 5 p.m., following a coffee break.

Dr. Lorraine Heidecker, CSUS Professor of Anthropology, program chair for the conference, stated that the Anthropological Research Group on Homosexuality and the Sacramento Anthropological Society "gratefully acknowledge the support of the CSUS Lesbian and Gay People's Union and the Department of Anthropology, CSUS."\*

## 'Style For Life' AIDS Benefit April 23

Get a new hairstyle and help the fight against AIDS at the "Style for Life" on Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m. till 8 p.m. at In Touch With You hair design, 2720 Capitol Ave., Suite 100.

"Get a \$25 style for \$10," said Bob Hall, owner of In Touch With You and chair of the event. "Proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society and the K.S. Foundation for the May 7 public forum at the State Capitol."

To make an appointment or to get a raincheck (valid for one week after the event) call 448-7819. Walk-ins are also welcome. Supporters of the event will enjoy complimentary wine and cheese, plus entertainment.

"Please join us in the fight against these diseases," Hall said. "With your support and donations we can help win the battle and support our community with style at the same time."

Persons who would like to contribute but cannot attend may call the American Cancer Society at 446-7933.\*

## Appeal Court Makes Ruling Final: Gay Games Can't Be 'Olympic'

The U.S. 9th Court of Appeal in San Francisco upheld a ruling April 11 that the Gay Games cannot be called "Olympic," The Associated Press reported.

The appeal court upheld a preliminary injunction granted Aug. 20, 1982, to the International Olympic Committee and the U.S. Olympic Committee by Chief U.S. District Judge Robert F. Peckham.

The injunction barred San Francisco Arts & Athletics and its founder, Dr. Thomas Waddell, from using the word Olympic for "the purpose of trade, to induce the sale of any goods or service, or in connection with any advertising, promotion, publicity or production of any theatrical exhibition, athletic performance, competition or event." In upholding the injunction, the court noted that federal law imposes criminal penalties for the unauthorized use of the words "Olympic, Olympiad or Citius Altius Fortius" for these purposes.

"There is no first amendment right to use the word Olympic in the title of appellants' games so long as there are other adequate means by which appel-

lants can communicate their message," the decision said.

The appeal court said its order can be reversed only if a trial court "relied on an erroneous legal premise or abused its discretion."

The promoters contend Peckham erred in finding that use of the word "Olympics" in connection with the gay games would cause confusion with the international Olympics because of the similarities between the two events.

The appellate court said the Gay Games are apparently modeled on the official Olympics and 10 of its 17 events are official Olympic events. It also cited ceremonial events at the gay games similar to those of the Olympics.

The promoters of the Gay Games contended that the purpose and character of their event are completely different and aimed at creating a "more realistic public image of homosexuals."

Mary Dunlap, attorney for the gay games, said she will discuss the possibility of appeal with her clients.\*



## ITEMS

## Dear Dora/Dangerous Derek

By RICK VAN DYKE

Don't forget to get to Sac State Thursday, April 21, to hear Jim Mayer speak on "Gay Marketing and Gay Politics." Mayer, formerly on President Carter's White House staff, is now Vice-President of Avanti Communications, the marketing company owned by Advocate owner David B. Goodstein. Mayer's talk is scheduled for 8 p.m. in Anthro 108.

There may still be a chance for women to attend the workshop on Pre-Menstrual Syndrome (PMS) on Saturday, April 23, from 8:30 a.m. till 4 p.m. in the Sacramento City College cafeteria. It's sponsored by Womankind Health Clinic and PMS Network. Call 452-KIND or 969-8237.

Also on the 23rd is an all-day "Style for Life" to benefit AIDS at In Touch With You hair design, 2720 Capitol Ave., Suite 100. You get a \$25 style for \$10 and the proceeds go to the American Cancer Society and the KS/AIDS Foundation for the May 7 public forum.

If you'd like to work for The Star—as a reporter, photographer, graphic artist, ad seller, or behind-the-scenes worker—come to the staff meeting Sunday, April 24, at 8 p.m. in the Oak Room on the third floor of the University Union at CSUS.

The Lesbian/Gay People's Union at CSUS has set April 26-28 as G.L.A.D. (Gay/Lesbian Awareness Days). They will sponsor speakers and discussions for the enlightenment of the campus community. The LGPU has also scheduled A Night of Women's Music for Saturday, May 7, and a Toga Party (sponsored by the "Phi Alpha Gamma" fraternity) for Saturday, April 30. Paul Martinez, 446-1171, has details.

It's good to hear that Universal Fellowship Press, the publishing house of the Metropolitan Community Church, is reissuing "Dear Dora Dangerous Derek Diesel Dyke," the Rev. Freda Smith's classic poem, as a new book.

Dignity/Sacramento will be celebrating its ninth anniversary with a dinner and dance on June 4; it should be a great meal and a fun event. The April 10 meeting saw the group enroll members 50 through 53, according to Co-Director Alberta Lane. She also reminds women that they're welcome at Women's Night for Dignity, which meets on the third Sunday of each month. For more information, call her at 739-8084.

The Valley Knights Motorcycle Club held their annual garage sale the weekend of April 9-10. It was quite successful, and the Knights would like to thank the many people who supported the sale with purchases and donations.

When the new Board of Directors of Our Community United met Monday evening, April 18, they decided not to go ahead and rent office space at this time. They will, however, fund an informational phone line to be located in and staffed by the Sacramento Women's Center. And they decided that OCU will sponsor quarterly educational seminars for the community, beginning in June, when the topic will be "Coming Out." Possible topics for September and December are "Couples" and "Religion."

If you are interested in religion—and in theatre—you should catch the new play, "The Shroud," at the Chautauqua Playhouse. Although the play itself is more of a rough draft than a polished product and the acting is often also rough and uneven, the concept is good and the questions raised are fascinating. Call the Chautauqua at 451-9604 for performance and ticket information.

Also new on the local theatre scene is "Goodbye Charlie," the latest production at Garbeau's Dinner Theatre. It's a comedy in which Charlie, a millionaire playboy, returns from the dead as a woman—much to the surprise of his friends. The theatre, at 1970 Fulton Ave., is open Wednesday through Sunday. Dinner is at 6:30, with the show at 8:15. Wednesday through Saturday. On Sunday, dinner is at 6, with a 7:30 curtain. Call 485-7461 for reservations.

It was just about a year ago that The Star got its start, and we'd like to celebrate our anniversary with you. So we're having a May Day Party in McKinley Park on Sunday, May 1. Look for our Maypole on the lawn between the Rose Garden and the duck pond from about 1 p.m. till dusk. The dance around the maypole, an ancient rite to bring prosperity and fertility, will be led by Mother Krona, starting around 3 p.m. Afterwards, there will be a potluck, so bring food and drink to share, along with bright, festive clothing, music and poetry.

Residents of the northern Sacramento Valley will be glad (I hope) to hear of two new distribution points for The Star: at Yuba College in Marysville and at Chico's popular bar, 900 Cherry St.

Saturday, May 7, promises to be one of the busiest days in a long time: the second Public Forum on AIDS is scheduled for 10 till 2 in room 4028 of the State Capitol; the Valley Knights are having their anniversary party at the Broadway Ltd. starting with motorcycle field trials at 11 a.m.; it's the second day of the Anthropological Conference on Homosexuality in the University Union at CSUS; and the LGPU is sponsoring A Night of Women's Music.

Lioness Books and the Sacramento Women's Center will move into their new building in the 2200 block of J Street during the last week of April, and will be closed during the first week of May to get settled in. Watch for their grand opening celebrations in June, advises Theresa Corrigan.

Sacramento's Lesbian and Gay Freedom Week has been set for June 11 through 18, with the parade on Saturday the 18th.

San Francisco Congressman Phillip Burton, who died April 10, is being mourned by many groups, including gays and lesbians, who felt he was a true friend and fighter for them in Congress. Sala Burton, his wife, has announced that she will run for election to complete the remaining 21 months of his term, and that gay rights will be among her priorities if elected. According to Steve Endean, Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby, Burton helped GRNL secure a record number of co-sponsors for the national gay and lesbian civil rights bill in the last Congress. In this Congress, Burton was planning strategies for expanding sponsorship even more and moving the bill forward, for securing funding for AIDS research, and for defeating the anti-gay McDonald Amendment to Legal Services. \*



Rick Van Dyke

## Researchers Think They May Have Found Another AIDS Clue: 'Rosettes' In Blood

Researchers have found microscopic, flower-shaped formations in lymph cells of men who had AIDS. The vesicular rosettes, as they called them, may help doctors diagnose the disease, The Associated Press reported recently.

A report on the rosettes, written by Dr. Edwin P. Ewing Jr. and others at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, was published April 7 in the New England

Journal of Medicine.

The doctors found the rosettes in 17 out of 18 gay men who had lymphadenopathy, a lymph disease suspected of being an early stage of AIDS. They also found the structures in three of six people who died of AIDS.

The rosettes were found in only two of 31 people being treated for other lymph-related diseases.

The research team said that looking for these rosettes may give doctors a way to diagnose AIDS, and they suggested checking for them in cases of lymphadenopathy with no apparent cause.

Dr. Dorothea Zucker-Franklin of the New York University Medical Center cautioned in an editorial that the rosettes could result from tissue degeneration and may not be a unique sign of AIDS.

The journal also had a report on AIDS research in Haiti, where the disease may have started.

Dr. Robert Elie and colleagues from the Laboratoire d'Investigations Biologique in Port-au-Prince discovered deterioration of the thymus gland in two women who died of AIDS. The thymus plays an important role in the immune system, and they said the damage "may represent a critical event" in the development of AIDS. \*

## KS In Hogs May Aid Research

Ohio State University researchers believe hogs will provide the first animal model for the study of Kaposi's Sarcoma, a type of cancer associated with AIDS, according to The Associated Press.

Chandra Prakash, assistant professor of microbiology and immunology at Ohio State, found that lesions on the hindquarters of hogs being studied were angiosarcomas, called Kaposi's sarcoma in humans.

He reported his research April 14 at the meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology.

"The experiments on the monkeys [at the California Primate Center at UC Davis] showed fibrosarcomas, tumors that are close to Kaposi's," Prakash said. "The pigs had human tumor markers that indicated the lesions were Kaposi's. The monkeys did not."

Ohio State researchers established a continuing line of pig tumor cells and produced tumors in mice by injecting them with the cells. They used mice to make research less expensive. \*

## Africans Living In Belgium Are Found To Have AIDS

Two studies recently reported in medical journals have found AIDS in black African patients, The Associated Press reported March 30.

Six cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome have been identified among recent immigrants to Belgium from Zaire and Chad. All were previously healthy men and women who had no history of drug abuse or homosexuality.

All the victims had been living in Belgium from 8 months to three years. Three of the six have died.

"This preliminary report suggests that black Africans, immigrants or not, may be another group predisposed to AIDS," according to the reporting Belgian doctors. \*

## Valley Knights 7th Anniversary Party

The Valley Knights Motorcycle Club will hold its seventh anniversary party Saturday, May 7 at the Broadway Ltd., 1946 Broadway. The all-day affair will begin with motorcycle field events at 11 a.m. The indoor party will start at 1 p.m., with a free keg of beer, free food, and an attendance pin provided by the Valley Knights.

The motorcycle field events will consist of several slow-speed skills tests. Each part of the contest is designed to test the ability of the biker to handle the bike during slow-speed maneuvers. There will also be buddy-rider events, in the rider must ride through the tests with a buddy also on the bike. Anyone with a motorcycle may enter the field events, and the public is invited to watch. The winners will receive trophies.

The Valley Knights are already taking advantage of the good spring weather. The club is sponsoring an overnight run to the Russian River April 23-24, and anticipate a good ride on the winding, twisty back roads between Sacramento and the Russian River area.

The riding and camping season is just beginning, and the Valley Knights, along with the other motorcycle clubs of the west coast, have many activities planned for the year. For more information, contact any Valley Knights member or write to the club at P.O. Box 8163, Sacramento, CA 95818. \*

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## Moral Majority Charges Censorship Of Conservative Books, Compares It To Discrimination Against Blacks, Will Survey Nation's Libraries

The Moral Majority's executive director of communication, Cal Thomas, said April 14 his research shows systematic discrimination against conservative books, particularly those that take positions against abortion and for the family and a strong national defense, according to The Associated Press.

The Rev. Jerry Falwell, president of the Moral Majority, said that "it looks a bit as though censorship and book-banning has been practiced by someone." Falwell claimed that "less than 10 percent of the libraries carry the conservative books that are vital to the conservative movement in this country."

Censorship is wrong, whether it's coming from the right or the left, Thomas

said at a news conference promoting his new book *Book Burning* and announcing a national campaign against the alleged censorship of conservative volumes.

He said conservative books should be just as available as more liberal ones. Falwell added that the Moral Majority is raising money to put these books on the shelves.

Thomas claimed that prejudice, not a conspiracy, is working against conservative authors, but the results are the same.

"If we were blacks and they were treating us that way based on race we'd be picketing and burning down their newspapers," he said.

Thomas explained, "I was trying to identify with another oppressed minority. ... The people who subscribe to the Judeo-Christian ethic have for too long been a similar kind of minority, discriminated against in our writing, discriminated against by the reviewers."

"I think it is perfectly legitimate to take a page from our minority brothers and sisters of the '60s and even today and begin pickets and even other kinds of actions."

Some of the books Thomas said should be in every school and library: "Phyllis Schlafly: The Sweetheart of the Silent Majority," by Carol Felsenthal; "The Right to Live; the Right to Die," by C. Everett Koop; "Evolution? The Fos-

sils Say No" by Duane Gish and "Gay is Not Good" by Frank Du Mas.

Ron Godwin, the Moral Majority's executive vice president, said the organization was asking its state and local affiliates to check to see if these and other books are represented in libraries. The results of the survey will be tabulated and published, he said. \*

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